

The MaineCITE Coordinating Committee is Maine's "Tech Act" organization. The duty of the organization is to implement the Technology Related Assistance for Individuals with Disabilities Act making those with disabilities and the organizations which serve them aware of new technologies that can advance independence and employment for people with disabilities.

Florida Association for the Deaf is an affiliate of the National Association for the Deaf, an organization of and for deaf adults.

The American Telemedicine Association (ATA) is an association whose objective is to promote improvement in the health care industry through telecommunications technology and broad based community telecommunications applications. The organization was instrumental in forming the Telemedicine Advisory Committee advising the FCC on implementing provisions on the Telecommunications Reform Act that provide for telecommunications services to rural health care providers.

The World Institute on Disability (WID) is a private, nonprofit organization that serves a research, training and public policy development center for the disability rights and independent living movements. Its Board of Directors and staff are predominately people with a wide variety of disabilities, and its work focuses on policy areas that are critical to the integration of people with disabilities into society. WID's Division on Technology Policy serves as a resource for disability organizations and individual activists who believe that people with disabilities can be empowered through technology. Its work centers search for ways to remove and prevent barriers to such use in the design of technology.

The Massachusetts Assistive Technology Partnership (MATP) purpose is to increase access to assistive technology for people of all ages and all disabilities through a variety of consumer responsive systems change activities. The MATP provides information, referral, training, technical assistance, and advocacy, and works to improve laws and policies providing access to assistive technology. The MATP is a state-wide project, funded through the National Institute of Disability and Rehabilitation Research, US Department of Education. The MATP is administered by the Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

The National Association of Development Organizations (NADO) is a public interest group founded in 1967 to promote community and economic development in America's small metropolitan and rural areas. NADO is a leading advocate for a regional approach to community and economic development. The association's primary goal is to assure all rural citizens have employment opportunities, public services, and a quality of life comparable to other Americans. NADO's members are regional development organizations whose staff provide professional assistance to local governments, businesses, and nonprofit organizations. Regional development organizations help identify local needs and priorities, and are catalysts for strategic planning in rural communities. The functions of regional organizations vary depending on the needs of local citizens and may include: small business financing, infrastructure and housing development, job training, environmental protection, and services for the poor and seniors. Each region is governed by a policy board of elected officials, business leaders, and citizen representatives.

# Appendix 1

Keep America Connected (KAC) is an organization comprised of groups whose demonstrated goals involve promoting a variety of telecommunications issues. The primary goal of KAC is that regardless of income, race, disability, age, ethnicity or geographical location affordable, access to the use of the modern telecommunications infrastructure and services should be available. This goal is best achieved through the rapid development of a fully competitive marketplace that ensures that consumers across the nation will have access to more services at lower prices.

The United Homeowners Association (UHA) is a national, nonprofit, membership based organization that represents the interests of homeowners in Washington, D.C. UHA has an active communications advocacy program on behalf of its members. UHA has promoted the interests of homeowners in telecommunications to Congress, before the FCC and in the Courts.

Alpha One is the largest center for independent living in Maine. Its members consist of both executives and managers who have disabilities and those who do not. Consumers of services have a wide range of disabilities including physical, sensory, developmental and multiple. Four offices located statewide enable thirty professional staff, many with disabilities themselves, to respond to the diverse needs of people across Maine. Alpha One is also a leading advocate in shaping public policy to address and integrate the needs of people with disabilities especially in the area of telecommunications.

The American Council on Education (ACE) is a nonprofit association comprised of 1,850 colleges, universities and other educational associations. ACE supports efforts to enhance telecommunications services or offerings available to its members.

The National Braille Press is an organization that promotes the use of Braille by companies that communicate with the general public such as utility companies. The organization represents the interests of the blind through support of policies and programs that will promote the development of competition in all telecommunication markets to create innovative approaches thereby creating opportunities for the blind to participate in the information superhighway.

The National Association of Commissions for Women (NACW) represents local commissions established to promote the interests of women in cultural, social, and economic fields. NACW supports policies and programs that empower women to make informed choices about all aspects of their lives. NACW has been active in the debate on telecommunications reform, supporting legislative and regulatory initiatives to e competition, thereby creating new options and services for women as consumers and in their businesses.

The National Trust for the Development of African American Men is a national, nonprofit organization based in the Washington, D.C. area, that addresses the development, needs challenges of African-Americans, especially males, in the areas of health, leadership, training, economic development, education, and crime prevention from an African view the world. The Trust operates programs throughout the country with a particular emphasis on technology training and making computers and on-line services accessible in low income and underserved communities.

National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) members are nonprofit and for-profit organizations located in the US and abroad who are all committed to excellence in higher education, finance and administration. One of NACUBO's missions is to anticipate the issues affecting higher education across the

world particularly the use of telecommunications as a means of sharing information and knowledge. NACUBO supports universal access to telecommunications regardless of ethnicity, income or geographic location.

Latin American Women and Supporters (LAWS) works to improve and promote information to Latin American women and their families through education. LAWS supports efforts to ensure that Latin American women have access to new telecommunications technologies and services for education, jobs, and economic development opportunities.

Harlem Consumer Education Council, Inc. is a consumer advocacy, consumer education and training organization based in New York City, New York. Among its activities is sponsorship of "Harlem Consumer Awareness Day", a joint conference with state and federal agencies.

The National Latino Telecommunications Taskforce (NLTT) was formed by a select group of Latino leaders concerned with the role of Latinos in the development of the National Information Infrastructure. The organization wants to ensure that the Latino community, minorities, the elderly, poor, the unskilled and non-English speaking immigrant populations will have an opportunity to participate in the information superhighway by ensuring that barriers to universal access are overcome.

The Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons is the premier self-help and advocacy organization of and for deaf and or hearing impaired persons in Fairfax County, Virginia. The group supports efforts to ensure and promote universal access and new telecommunications technologies that will empower its constituents and create new opportunities in the workforce, education and society.

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